

The Scranton Tribune

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THE REPUBLICAN TICKET.

State. State Treasurer—J. S. BEACON, of Westmoreland. Auditor General—LEVI G. M'CAULEY, of Chester. County. Sheriff—CLARENCE E. PRYOR, of Scranton. District Attorney—JOHN R. JONES, of Blakely. Prothonotary—JOHN COPELAND, of Carbonade. Treasurer—W. S. LANGSTAFF, of Scranton. Clerk of the Courts—THOMAS P. DANIELS, of Scranton. Recorder—CHARLES HUESTER, of Scranton. Register—WILLIAM K. BECK, of Moscow. Jury Commissioner—CHARLES WIGZINSKI, of Scranton. Election day, November 2.

And so Boland, Christy Boland, has joined the haloed circle, and rustles his wings in virtuous horror at the mention of money in politics. Yet only a brief year ago a man very like Christy was buying Nate Vidaver out of Judge Merrifield's way and getting sued for the quit-price into the bargain!

A Word to Real Republicans.

The political situation in this county has now reached a stage where it is possible to ascertain with some degree of accuracy how the Republican cause stands. We do not propose in this article to reveal valuable information to the enemy; but we wish to assure the loyal Republicans of the county that the outlook for a complete victory for the entire Republican ticket one week from Tuesday is at this writing most encouraging. We believe that the ticket will be elected by safe and gratifying pluralities no matter what the Democrats may do in the ensuing eleven days. That in that interval they will work and work desperately is, however, to be expected.

The Democrats, it is noticed, are making almost their whole campaign in Republican districts seeking to influence hitherto loyal Republicans to jump the party fence this once and go for one, two, three, or the whole lot of Democratic candidates, as the case may be. The especial drive is on Schadt and Horn, with Kelly a close third. As we have said all along, these are the three candidates on the Schadt slate for whom the other candidates will be sacrificed when the proper moment comes, and if one of the three has to go overboard it will be Kelly. Schadt is for Schadt, first, last and always, but the city hall gang has made it a condition of its support of Schadt that Schadt shall refrain from lifting the knife of treachery against Horn. Horn is especially Mayor Bailey's candidate. Bailey has pledged his word to certain interests lack of Horn that Horn shall be elected; and his opportunities for keeping tabs on Schadt are such that Schadt will probably have to play fairly with Horn, whatever he may do by the remaining colleagues on his ticket, for fear that otherwise Bailey might at the last moment take effective revenge.

In other words, if any man on the Democratic ticket this fall shall be elected or shall come near an election, it will be owing wholly to Republican co-operation or the failure of true blue Republicans to accomplish their accustomed work for the party ticket. What has any real Republican to gain this year by voting for a part or the whole of the Democratic ticket? The candidates on his own ticket are admittedly or the average far better men and decidedly more qualified by experience and training to give satisfactory service in the respective county offices to which they aspire. On the score of personnel the Republican ticket is one of the best tickets ever nominated in this or any other county, and is everywhere recognized as such. Moreover it is the regular Republican ticket, fairly representing the choice of a majority of the Republican voters of Lackawanna county and standing in line with the Republican party in state and nation. If it loses a vote the Republican party loses a vote. If it is weakened by desertion or disaffection or the venting of personal pique of any kind at the polls week after next it is the Republican party which will be weakened, not any individual. Above all the fuss and froth of the campaign this rises as the cold, clear fact of the situation, which nothing can remove or obscure; that the Republican who casts one vote for an enemy of Republican principles, be the election local, state or national, drives a dagger into his party's vitals and for the time at least ceases to be a Republican.

The Democrats who now so solicitously court Republican support will not reward it after election. They promise this, they promise that; it is common rumor that Schadt has already promised to Republican workers in different parts of the county more places in the jail than he could find if he were to put a warden in every cell. But history teaches what these campaign promises amount to. A Democrat once in office is going to be for Democrats, every time. He will have no use for any Republican turnout after election! Besides, what can any Republican expect in future from his own party if he listens to overtures from the enemy? The names of open deserters are always known. They are rarely forgotten. At some time in future the fact of disloyalty is bound to arise as an obstacle not to be explained away. It makes no difference which leader or so-called "boss" is on top, or what faction is in control, no man in any party ever afterward puts confidence in the voter once implicated in treachery. From any standpoint, therefore, whether on principle or in the light simply of self-interest, justification cannot be found in this campaign for

Republican disaffection or desertion. The party expects every loyal party man to do his duty and such a man will do it the more gladly, because if he shall pause to consider, he will perceive that it is in the direction in which his own best interests lie. With the active support of such, which we fully expect, the Republican ticket on the night of Nov. 2 will be returned as elected by a rip-roaring majority, and Bryanism in Lackawanna will receive its measure for a coffin.

The appearance of Judge Merrifield on the stump for the Bryanite ticket is not out of place, for he was himself a Bryanite candidate once and doubtless has a fellow-feeling for the cause. But when the amiable Judge falls into the Democratic practice of howling against alleged Republican corruption and joins in the work of setting up the boodle scarecrow, does his mind ever travel back to that halcyon day, thirteen years ago, when he and the late Judge Handley had a little tilt in convention and he was credited with lifting the lowly delegate to the highest limit in the history of Northeastern Pennsylvania politics? Ah, Judge, but you're a wag!

How to Call Spain's Bluff.

If the published report should prove true that the Spanish ministry has directed a reply to be sent to the note of Minister Woodford containing among other features an insinuation that the United States authorities have neglected their duty in the matter of the prevention of filibustering and threatening to present a claim for damages, the answer from Washington should not be delayed. It need not be a long answer. All that would be needed to fit such an emergency would be a brief executive proclamation recognizing as a belligerent power the republic of Cuba. That would cover the situation far better than reams upon reams of inconclusive diplomatic fencing. Moreover it would satisfy a condition which forces the duty of such recognition upon our government quite regardless of any act of Spain.

Let it be borne in mind that the recognition of the Cuban republic as a belligerent power would give Spain no just cause of offense and could not possibly be construed by any rational mind as a provocation for reprisals. Spain herself has virtually recognized the Cubans as belligerents in her removal of Weyler and in her substitution of a captain-general for Cuba commissioned to treat with the insurgents in behalf of peace. From Spain's own actions the United States can make out a clear case.

The recognition of Cuban belligerency would have this immediate effect: It would relieve the American authorities from the costly, personally unpleasant and evidently unappreciated duty of acting in a police capacity as an ally of Spain; and it would open to the practical sympathy which the American people unofficially feel for the Cuban cause a free route to the insurgent army. Within thirty days thereafter Cuba would be absolutely free.

For Cuba's sake we hope Spain will fool with the Washington buzz saw.

Mr. Duggan's assertion at Dunmore that Schadt had nothing to do with keeping him off the ticket may be technically true. Duggan could have fought Schadt in convention and perhaps beaten him despite the resources of the Schadt slate, but he preferred not to compete. At the same time everybody knows that it was the Schadt influence that elbowed Duggan out of the running. Mr. Duggan is too wary a politician to be caught bolting or fighting his party; but his friends cannot forget how he was treated. They will be heard from a week from Tuesday.

With Regard to Pensions.

Commissioner of Pensions Evans informs an interviewer: "I am going to try to get congress to put a stop to the present opportunities which the law offers to women to secure pensions for life from the United States by marrying an old soldier, by recommending some important pension legislation. The practice by women of securing pensions in this manner is notoriously common. At the soldiers' homes young women will snip up the chance to marry decrepit old men, evidently hoping that they will soon die and leave the pension, and in many of these cases the women do not even live with the men they marry. I hope to recommend to congress that a law be passed providing that women marrying soldiers hereafter shall not be entitled to any pension upon the death of their husbands. The law of 1890 makes this stipulation regarding the pensions which are payable under that act, but the great majority of the pensioners now on the rolls draw their money by virtue of previous acts."

Mr. Evans' forthcoming report is expected to show that there are now on the pension list, as the result of the civil war, the names of 583,628 pensioners. The year before there were but 570,524 pensioners. The presence of this additional 13,000 names, Mr. Evans explains, is due to his having taken up and disposed of a large number of old claims for arrears of pensions, which he found on file when he took charge of the office last summer. There are a great number of these, and they have been accumulating in the office for years. Nearly the whole 13,000 increase comes from such of these old claims as have been allowed, and there are still large numbers of the ancient claims which are yet to be disposed of. The number of these which are likely to be allowed, he intimates, will at least meet the losses on the rolls by death for the next year. "I predict, however," he says, "that after the year 1898 the number will begin to drop, and after it very begins to go down it will decline very rapidly. The soldiers of the late war are getting old very fast and many of them passed away during the last year." The expenditures during the year just ended were also greater than those of the year before by a little more than \$3,000,000. They amounted to \$142,477,841.50.

In late years there has unquestionably developed a sentiment, not among copperheads or sympathizers with disunion, but among many men who themselves helped to suppress the rebellion, that not every dollar of the certainly generous sums annually voted

fully belonged or where it would fulfill the largest equity. An extract which we recently reproduced from a St. Paul paper voiced this feeling; publications in the New York Sun showing how the total annual appropriations for pensions continue to grow long after the number of surviving veterans had begun to decrease and very much longer than the time estimated by pioneers in pension legislation as the turning point in this source of expenditure have augmented it. Our own view of the matter is that no honest American ought to begrudge a cent spent by the government in relief of the necessities of those who fought to save it, or of their relatives or descendants. But on the other hand this should be the limit. Well-to-do veterans who have no need of money from the government cheapen their heroism when they accept a price for it that may take bread out of mouths of comrades or the widows and orphans of comrades in actual want. In a friendly spirit this administration should endeavor to revise the pension rolls and prune from them such names as honest and accurate investigation may disclose to be enrolled without warrant in equity or law. To this no fair-minded man ought to offer the slightest objection; and this we take to be Commissioner Evans' ultimate purpose.

What do the straight Democrats expect to get if Schadt should by any accident be elected? He has already promised all the patronage of the sheriff's office twice over to representatives of the few bolting Republicans.

Pretext and Fact.

The anti-civil service reform league, an organization formed at Washington for the purpose of conducting a relentless fight on the so-called merit system now largely in vogue in the government service, has made a count of congressional noses and consequently feels encouraged to believe that ere many months have elapsed something in the nature of bogus reform will drop on capitol hill, with a dull sickening thud. Figures are not given, but if Congressman Grosvenor is to be believed that fully 200 members of the house of representatives are ready to join in a war upon the present civil service regulations, the prospect certainly prefigures music in the air. These premonitions of trouble ahead are enough to account for the prolonged consideration lately given in the cabinet meetings to the civil service problem.

In a recent publication Representative Hicks of Pennsylvania cited some figures bearing on the manipulation of the civil service during the second Cleveland administration which go far to explain the existence of the present antagonism to the Pendleton law. It is the boast of that law that it insures a force of minor employees of the government whose tenure of position rests not on pull but on merit. Yet in three years following the second inauguration of Grover Cleveland 1750 dismissals and resignations took place in the treasury department, 1155 in the interior department and 1116 in the agricultural department; and the places thus made vacant were immediately filled by Democrats. A majority of the dismissals affected Union veterans; a majority of the appointees replacing them were ex-Confederates. When these departments had been sufficiently partitioned, then President Cleveland, just prior to his stepping down and out, issued his famous wholesale order putting into the classified service and under the protection of the civil service law those offices, not previously classified, which, in expectation of this order, had been packed full of his party's henchmen, thus "cinching" them for years to come.

It may be said that these figures present no argument against an honest enforcement of the civil service law; that faults just noted were not faults of the system but of the men then charged with the law's enforcement and recant to its spirit if not to its letter. When this is granted, however, there remains to be said that the fundamental principle of the law is faulty and un-American, inasmuch as the tests of fitness which it supplies are in no sense adequate, and the theory of a permanent office-holding class is repugnant to the spirit of our institutions. Take, for example, the case of the collector of revenue for any district. He is appointed by the president and held accountable in heavy bond not only for his own acts but also for the acts of each of his subordinates. Yet he cannot name as his deputy a man of his own choice in whose integrity he can repose implicit trust unless that man shall first win one of the three highest percentages in an academic order and the examination held under the auspices of a red-tape-loving civil service commission. Should he not get this cut and dried rating the collector must take for his deputy an entire stranger, concerning whom he knows nothing more than that he has a good memory for high school text-book information. This stranger might be a walking encyclopedia of useless book-learning and yet not be equipped with enough common sense and practical, work-a-day shrewdness to come in when it rains.

These things explain the growing restlessness of men at Washington behind the scenes, who know that the public sentiment which has been worked up in favor of civil service reform has been created chiefly by false representations. Civil service reform as pictured in Mugwump literature and civil service reform as exemplified in actual operation in the executive departments are as wide as the poles apart; and it will be strange indeed if some of those fine days the divergence between pretense and fact should not inspire a radical overhauling of the whole subject with an eye to true reform.

The thing for good citizens to do next month is to bury Bryanism and the whole Democratic outfit so deep that their pernicious platform will never be resurrected. Falling to beat John R. Jones by abuse the Democrats are now trying to make fun of him; but they'll laugh on the other side of the mouth a week from Wednesday.

Next week the loyal Republicans of Lackawanna county are due to take off their coats and proceed to business. Don't have anything to do with a party ashamed of its platform.

Forecast of the New York Result

From the New York Sun. The general indications of the campaign and special investigations made in all the assembly districts by both parties agree in the suggestion of a large vote for Henry George. He and his managers profess, and undoubtedly with entire sincerity, that their confidence in his election is stronger now than ever; but nothing the Republicans nor Tammany believe that there is any solid justification for it. Besides the distraction of Tammany votes by George, there will also be a loss of some Democratic votes to Low. This number is not likely to be large, but they will serve, so far as they go, to divide still further the Democratic vote, and to that extent will militate against Van Wyck's chances. Putting together the loss to George and to Low, how can the remainder left to Tammany be enough to elect its ticket?

Unquestionably, the first requisite to a reasonable examination is to estimate the strength of the George movement. Such votes as George gets will be drawn almost wholly from Tammany. Hence, a reasonable estimate of Van Wyck's vote is possible until we have reached some conclusion as to the proportions of the George movement. It is hard to believe that the Wall street bets of great odds in favor of Van Wyck are other than mere electioneering devices. That he will suffer seriously from the diversion of Tammany voters to George is undeniable. George's candidacy is supported manifestly by a great part of the intense and enthusiastic Bryanite sentiment which gave Tammany 135,000 votes last year and polled 225,000 votes for Bryan in the Greater New York. That he will divide and perhaps eat the lion's share of it. How, then, can any sane man at all acquainted with existing political conditions look upon Van Wyck's election as sure or even probable? We question if there is any such man. Many men may have the hope; the absolute confidence is in none.

Low's candidacy suffered a blow from the George nomination from which it cannot recover. George's friends lent powerful assistance in filling up the Low petition, but when their own hero became a candidate himself all hands dropped Low forthwith and turned in enthusiastically to the support of George. He and not Low is now the leader of the opposition to political organization. The Low movement is swallowed up in the George movement, so far as concerns that sentiment. Apparently there remains to Low only the support of the Mugwumps and the few thousands of Bryanite and Democratic and Republican deserters who will cling to him to the last. The election of Low may be dismissed from the possibilities. He is not likely to come within sight of the goal.

The election of General Tracy is assured, under present conditions, if the Republican strength is concentrated on him. The normal Republican vote of the Greater New York is calculable according to the percentage of the whole vote shown in past elections during a long series of years, exceeds 200,000. The loss in it due to the low candidacy will be small, actually and proportionately, as we have said already, and that loss will be made up wholly or largely by Democratic votes for General Tracy as indicated by the candidate whose election is most probable, and who alone represents the opposition to Bryanism, defeat of which is recognized by every conservative man as essential to the prosperity of this community. Looking at the situation thus dispassionately, General Tracy is assuredly in the lead.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajacchus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological Cast: 1:45 a. m. for Saturday, October 23, 1897.

A child born on this day will notice that to be a good Democratic editor these days one must try to keep one's thoughts as far as possible from accounts of the candidates.

Bryanism, Bolandism, Baileyism and Bluff seem to be on their last legs in Scranton politics.

It is a remarkable coincidence that Candidate Schadt's picture occupies a place next to a nicker advertisement in the street cars.

People who have been forced to swallow dust from Abe Dunning's street sweepers welcomed the rain yesterday.

Ajacchus' Advice. It is not a good thing to speak well of your neighbor. He is liable to hear of it and strike you for a loan.

It is always well to endeavor to make peace if one is at a safe distance from the combatants.

A POLITICAL POINTER.

If you endorse the free trade and free-liver Chicago platform as the Lackawanna Democracy does, "fully and without reserve," then work and vote for Schadt, Horn, et al. If you believe in McKinley, protection and prosperity, turn these agents of Bryan down.

M'KINLEY AND NEW YORK.

From the Washington Post. We confess to an inability to sympathize with or commend the criticism that is being hurled at the administration for its endorsement of General Tracy in the mayoralty fight now in progress in New York. Neither does it appear to us that in its position the administration is at fault. The well-known and well-remembered by the president of not interfering with local Republican factional troubles. The administration is, first of all, a Republican administration and properly anxious that those who represent the principles of the Republican party shall be victorious at the polls. There can certainly be no objection to an expression of its solicitude for the exercise of a dignified and reasonable influence for the success of those who carry its standard.

There is in New York city but one Republican candidate, General Tracy, nominated by a regularly constituted convention, composed of legally elected delegates. Seth Low is not a Republican candidate. He is the representative of a Mugwump movement, and his entry in the race will do more to defeat the regular Republican nominee than any other factor. Under these circumstances he is plainly not entitled to favor at the hands of a Republican administration. Low stands for good government, of course, and he is a man of fine character and acknowledged ability. The administration, however, would be wiser than foolish—it would lack discrimination and gratitude—if it were to undertake the indorsement of all good men; and that, too, at the expense of those who are aligned with and faithful to the regular organization.

MERIT AND EXPERIENCE.

From the Carbonade Leader. If merit and experience count for anything in politics Thomas P. Daniels will be elected this fall to the position of clerk of the county by a rotating majority. It is one of those offices for which a particular knowledge of its workings is needed. This Mr. Daniels has. The technical knowledge he has acquired as clerk in the office several years and as chief clerk during the past three will enable him to enter at once upon the personal conduct of the office insuring its most careful management. This is what is wanted by the taxpayers and is best for their interests. The success of the office is also assured. During his term of public life he has treated all callers at the clerk's office with that courtesy and obliging manner which has made for him a friend in each of his business acquaintances. Mr. Daniels should and will be elected.

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Very respectfully yours,

Goldsmith Brothers & Co.

FINLEY'S Great Linen Sale.

Saturday, Oct. 23rd will inaugurate a Great Autumn Sale of Housekeeping Linens.

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